According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## **B. FIELDS SEARCHED**

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) B61K G01N G01H G01B

Category ° Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.	
А	EP 1 236 634 A (DIGITAL IMAGE RES LTD) 4 September 2002 (2002-09-04)	1,4,5, 13,17,	
	paragraph '0113! - paragraph '0143!; figures 1-5	18,24-26	
Α	US 5 574 224 A (JAEGGI JEAN-PIERRE) 12 November 1996 (1996-11-12)	1,5,7, 10,13, 16-18,	
	column 2, line 49 - column 4, line 35; figures 1-3	20,23-26	
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Patent family members are listed in annex.

- Special categories of cited documents:
- "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

figures 1-4

- earlier document but published on or after the international
- "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- O' document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- document published prior to the International filing date but later than the priority date claimed
- \*T\* later document published after the International filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the Invention
- 'X' document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- \*&\* document member of the same patent family

Date of malling of the international search report

Date of the actual completion of the international search

26 April 2005

Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

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## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

int anal Application No

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C.(Continu	BILON) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT	•	
Category °			Relevant to claim No.
A	SHI-CHANG WOOH ET AL.: "Laser ultrasonic detection of rail defects" REVIEW OF QUANTITATIVE NONDESTRUCTIVE EVALUATION, vol. 21, May 2002 (2002-05), pages 1819-1826, XP002326052 cited in the application page 1820, line 1 - page 1821, line 2; figures 1,2		1,5,

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